is rapidly assuming quite a different complexion. I write in the first person in making this appeal but the question of course really affects all workers equally.

Yours, etc.

Oldfield Thomas.

British Museum (Natural History),
Cromwell Road, London, S. W. 7.
  22nd February, 1921.

SAVE THE REDWOODS OF CALIFORNIA

Editor Journal of Mammalogy:

The Redwoods of California, *Sequoia sempervirens*, are among the oldest trees in the world. Their great size and height, the beauty of their feathery foliage, the grandeur and dignity of their towering trunks, the wonderful attractiveness of the half-lighted forest aisles give an impression which cannot be adequately described. That the inspiration of these things will be largely denied the generations of the future seems altogether likely unless prompt and adequate action is taken to preserve the Redwoods; for there are several important groves which, if they are to be saved at all, must be saved in 1921.

The pressing need for the preservation unspoiled of some fragments of wild nature is becoming increasingly apparent; and to few persons is this need more obvious than to the mammalogist or ornithologist who regularly takes the field. In California, Oregon and Washington, the far-reaching consequences of deforestation, which fall on the bird and mammal communities as well as on the trees, are all too evident. After the customary lumbering operations the landscape is a dreary and dismal place.

A determined effort inaugurated and led by Dr. John C. Merriam, of the Council of the American Society of Mammalogists, is being made to save some portions of the Redwoods. A non-profit corporation, the "Save the Redwoods League," has been organized, and it is proposed: (1) To rescue from destruction, for the enjoyment of this generation and those to come, adequate tracts of the *Sequoia sempervirens*, or Redwoods. (2) To establish through Federal aid a National Redwood Park, and through State aid a State Redwood Park. (3) To purchase Redwood groves by private subscription, and to establish memorial groves for individuals and organizations. (4) To obtain the protection of timber along the State highways now in course of construction in California. (5) To urge the State to purchase cut-over Redwood areas for reforestation.

Tangible accomplishments in which the League has had some part during the past year include the expenditure of over $100,000 in saving redwood groves along the State Highway in California, establishing a memorial grove to Colonel Raynal C. Bolling, the first American officer of high rank to fall in the World War, securing delay in cutting of areas designed for preservation, obtaining options on Redwoods lands along the South Fork of the Eel River (California), financing a survey for a National Redwood Park, gathering data for future use regarding the Redwood resources of the State, and engineering an effective publicity campaign. A strong organization has been built up and more than four thousand individuals have joined the League already.

Ultimately the League intends to secure a complete Redwood survey, including information concerning both species of Sequoia (*Sequoia sempervirens*, the Redwood, and *Sequoia gigantea*, the Big Tree). It is desirable that the birds and mammals of the Redwood habitat be investigated together with the trees. In view of Hofmann's findings (Ecology, vol. 1, 1920, pp. 49-53) regarding rodents and the reproduction of Douglas Fir one might almost expect to discover further significant relationships.

Those interested in the objects of the League can help by joining the organization, and promoting the prosperity of the movement in other ways. The Secretary-Treasurer of the League is R. G. Sproul, University of California, Berkeley, California; the dues for annual members are two dollars a year. It would seem appropriate that the American Society of Mammalogists take official cognizance of this movement and offer the encouragement of its moral support at least through the medium of resolutions adopted at the next annual meeting.

Walter P. Taylor.

Biological Survey, La Jolla, California.

THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MAMMALOGISTS

The third annual meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists was held in the United States National Museum, Washington, D. C., May 2–4, 1921, with 67 members in attendance,—approximately ⅛ of the total membership of the Society. Among other business matters it was voted that the Society affiliate with the American Association for the Advancement of Science; and that two additional committees be appointed: one on Marine Mammals; the other on Economic Mammalogy. Prof. E.-L. Trouessart, Muséum National, Paris, France, was unanimously elected an Honorary Member. The following rule was adopted by the Society: Rule III. Delinquents. A. Members whose dues are in arrears for more than one year shall not be entitled to receive the Journal of Mammalogy. B. The names of members whose dues are in arrears for more than two years shall be presented to the Directors for action.

The report of the Corresponding Secretary showed a total of 527 members in the Society, of which 99 were elected at the present meeting, and 41 were delinquent for 1920 dues. There had been 2 deaths and 11 resignations since the last annual meeting. The total distribution of the Journal of Mammalogy, including subscriptions, May 3, 1921, was 550.

The Society can take pride in having established a creditable magazine without a single financial donation toward its publication or general expenses. This has been done at a critical period in industrial history and at a time when printing costs were almost prohibitive. It has been possible, however, largely through the Charter Members, who willingly paid membership dues for the year 1919, yet received only one number of the Journal during that year. With a normal increase in the number of members and subscribers we can hope to continue to publish under present conditions between 200 and 250 pages and 10 half tones a year. Indications are that we shall soon be receiving first-class manuscript in